



**Date:** August 31, 2015  
**To:** Mayor and City Council Members  
**From:** Patrick H. West, City Manager *P.H.W.*  
**Subject:** **AB 266 (Bonta): Proposed Statewide Medical Marijuana Regulations**

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Statewide medical marijuana legislation is currently under consideration by the California State Legislature. The Legislature has until September 11 to pass bills in the current legislative cycle and the Governor has until October 11 to sign or veto those bills.

In late June of this year, two competing measures, AB 26 (Jones-Swayer) and AB 34 (Bonta), were consolidated with AB 266 (Bonta) Medical Cannabis. AB 266 was gaining bipartisan support and City staff were carefully following and analyzing the draft proposed regulation in anticipation of the City Council's consideration of the Medical Cannabis Task Force recommendations on September 1, 2015.

On August 27, AB 266 was amended significantly by the Senate Appropriations Committee on a vote of 5-0 to be a placeholder bill with no detail, and the Governor's Office is expected to provide draft language for the Legislature to consider in the next few days. Once language is available, City staff will provide a substantive analysis to the City Council.

AB 266 is presumed to have a good chance to be adopted as the statewide framework for medical marijuana given that it has the Governor's support. Because AB 266 is still under development, its implications for the City of Long Beach's ordinance and regulatory program will continue to evolve until September 11. As the City Council considers modifications to the City's current ordinance, it should closely consider how any modifications would be affected by the passage of AB 266.

If you have questions or comments, please contact Diana Tang, Manager of Government Affairs at (562) 570-6506.

cc: Charles Parkin, City Attorney  
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